



MINUTES OF THE WASHOE COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

January 6, 2021

Washoe County Senior Center, Reno, Nevada 89512

Zoom Webinar

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/78207944707?pwd=ZkgvSHFXeUxzMkNlRXNaWHd3R1F1dz09>

1. ***Call To Order** - Meeting was called to order at 3:01 p.m. by Chair- Dr. Larry Weiss.
2. ***Roll Call** – Donna Clontz asked for the roll call; Sandra Vasquez took the roll. There was a quorum present via Zoom meeting.

WASHOE COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS:

PRESENT VIRTUALLY

Barbara Korosa
James Doyle
Mark Miranda
Rick Sorensen

Deborah Whitehouse
(late)
Sarah Deardorff
Donna Clontz

ABSENT (EXCUSED*)

* Dr. Larry Weiss
* Jennifer McMenemy
* Linda Hardie

WASHOE COUNTY STAFF PRESENT

Abby Willrich
Steve McBride
Amber Howell

Sandra Vasquez
Herbert Kaplan (DA)
Kaleigh Behrendt

ADVISOR PRESENT

Connie McMullen

ADVISOR (ABSENT)

Victoria Edmondson

3. ***Public Comment** –

David Boire from Senator Rosen’s office introduced himself.

Kaleigh Behrendt introduce herself; she is the new Daybreak supervisor.

4. ***Member Announcements** –

Donna stated that as a senior representative, a lot of people are concerned about the COVID vaccination process. It may be good to discuss on a meeting and get a presentation of what is going on.

Deborah Whitehouse enters meeting at 3:08pm.

5. Approval of the Agenda for the Advisory Board Meeting on January 6, 2021 (For Possible Action)

Motion to approve the agenda was made by James Doyle and seconded by Rick Sorensen.
Motion passed unanimously.

6. Approval of the Minutes for the Advisory Board Meeting on December 2, 2020 (For Possible Action)

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Sarah Deardorff and seconded by Barbara Korosa.
Motion passed unanimously.

7. *Update and discussion on Washoe County issues and activities relating to seniors – Steve McBride, Division Director

Steve stated the Health Department had a press release that talked about having seniors over 75 years old be in Tier 2 for the vaccine, for more accurate information people can go to the Health Department website. Amber stated she is reaching out to the Health Department to get more information. Commissioner Kitty Jung stated there is not a national uniform way of providing the vaccine, she and Amber Howell will look at getting more information on vaccine distribution. Sarah asked about homebound seniors and how vaccines for them will be addressed; Amber stated she will look into it as well. Kitty Jung stated they are looking at fire and ambulance services for helping with the vaccination process. Donna stated she heard about using private pharmacies to distribute the COVID vaccine. Steve stated they had a busy end of the year quarter and there was a productive acquisition of grants. Abby stated they were able to secure under \$140,000 for the freezer, \$33,000 for the tent outside of the senior center, and under \$110,000 of CARES to supplement senior meals. In total it was about \$150,000 acquired. In regard to nutrition, last quarter, about 92,000 meals were given and 16,000 congregate, there were 251 new clients start in home delivered meals. They found that there were many temporary clients that came into the program. In 2019 there were 1,634 home delivered meal clients and in 2020 there were 2,205.

8.*Update on Sparks Senior Citizen Advisory Committee - Donald Abbott

Donald stated that their next meeting is February 24 at 9am. Dispatch Health will be attending to present. Also, if someone is interested in getting the agenda or newsletter, he can make it happen. Donna stated she asked Sandra to send the WCHSASAB agenda to Sparks and Reno Senior Advisory Board.

9. Update, report, discussion, and possible recommendations regarding age friendly communities sponsored by AARP throughout the county and cities (For Possible Action) – Donna Clontz

Donna stated the age friendly group hasn't met in a while due to COVID. They are working on resources and the friendly visitor call project. They are planning on presenting at the Sparks Board meeting in February. Barry Gold may present with her at the Sparks Board meeting.

10. Report, discussion, and possible recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners regarding recruiting a new Advisory Board Members for Districts 5 and two for Alternate (For Possible Action)

Steve stated he will have Chris Ciarlo post the announcement.

11. Update, discussion, and possible recommendations regarding the Friendly Visitor Calls project to selected Washoe County seniors (For Possible Action)

Donna stated that several meetings ago, the Board and staff discussed it would be good to do this project to help isolated seniors. The survey that was given out helped in finding seniors that wanted a friendly phone call. There are about 36 seniors who are on the list to receive friendly calls and 12 qualified volunteers to make the calls. Deborah stated she really enjoys making the calls and has received good feedback from the seniors. Donna reminded called that issues can be sent to staff. Donna expressed her thanks to Todd Acker and Sarah.

12. Discussion and possible recommendations regarding issues and activities that the Advisory Board would like to pursue and support in 2021 (For Possible Action)

Donna asked the Board if there are any recommendations.

Connie McMullen stated that legislature session starts on February 1st. There was a 6% cut in Medicaid, but they are looking at restoring it. There is going to be a huge budget deficit. There are a few bill draft requests, but the big thing at the moment is if it's going to be in person or virtual. Donna thanked Connie for the update and keeping up on senior issues. Connie stated that during the special session, it was all online and it was hard to communicate with the lawmakers. Donna stated the legislative session will take them to June. Connie stated that because of the budget deficit, probably nothing with money will be passed. Sarah asked if there is any idea for Older American Month and maybe it can be something like a nomination of people in the community.

13. Update, discussion, and possible recommendations regarding the Washoe County Senior Advisory Board Bylaws (For Possible Action)

Donna stated she and Deborah were going to start looking at the bylaws. She would like to take a look at them again. Barbara stated she sent an email to Donna and Larry, she has experience with bylaws if help is needed.

Rick Sorensen leaves at 3:57pm. Quorum still present.

14. Report, discussion, possible recommendations and updates on the Advisory Board member's Shared Issues and Goals for Housing, Advocacy, Communication & Information, Data Planning, Transportation, Nutrition Programs, Social & Recreation, Senior Law, Volunteering, Financing, and Social & Health Services (For Possible Action)

Sarah stated that the personal shopping program has gone through the allotted money; fresh fruit and veggies were popular. Barbara stated that there were organizations that would do grants and they are now curtailing and pretty much shut down. Donna stated she will see if the Health Department will have a Zoom meeting she can attend. She has attended legislative meetings for updates; also, the Housing Coalition is having a meeting tomorrow, which she will attend.

15. Report, discussion, and possible recommendations on senior board members to attend ongoing Washoe County public meetings (For Possible Action)

None.

16. Agenda items for the next Board meeting

Amber Howell suggested a presentation on Our Place, which has a senior wing, pet wing, and has extended the staying time frame. Our Place has become a pipeline for TADS. Donna would like to see it in the February agenda.

17. *Public comment –

Marsy Kupfersmith stated that Seniors in Service received over 400 Kindles to help seniors with communicating through technology; seniors can also get tech training.

18. Adjournment (For Possible Action)

Motion to adjourn was made by Barbara Korosa and seconded by James Doyle. Motion was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 4:16 pm.

DRAFT